

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 7, 9, and 10, as follows:

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7. (amended) An optical monitoring system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
- a reference signal source, installed on the optical bench, that generates a reference signal that is filtered by the tunable filter; and
 - a reference signal sensor that detects the reference signal which has been filtered by the tunable filter.

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9. (amended) An optical monitoring system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
- a reference signal source, installed on the optical bench, that generates the reference signal;
 - a collimating lens, installed on the optical bench, for improving the collimation of the reference signal;
 - a combining filter, installed on the optical bench, that inserts the reference signal into a beam path of optical signal prior to filtering by the tunable filter;
 - a separation filter, installed on the optical bench, that separates the reference signal from the optical signal, post filtering by the tunable filter; and
 - a reference signal sensor, installed on the optical bench, that detects the reference signal from the separation filter.

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10. (amended) A method for constructing an integrated optical monitoring system, comprising:
- installing an optical bench in a hermetic package;
 - inserting a fiber pigtail through a fiber feed-through, into the package;
 - connecting an end of the fiber pigtail to the bench;
 - installing a tunable filter on a top of the bench to filter an optical signal from the fiber pigtail; and